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Advocate of Peace.

VOL. LXXII.

BOSTON, SEPTEMBER, 1910.

No. 8

THE AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY,
PUBLISHERS,
31 BEACON STREET, BOSTON, MASS.
Cable Address, "Peace, Boston."

MONTHLY, ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR. TEN CENTS PER COPY

Entered at the Boston Post Office as Second Class Matter.

Make all checks payable to the American Peace Society. To personal checks on Western and Southern banks add ten cents for collecting.

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Robert Treat Paine.

It is with great sorrow that we have to record the death, on August 11, of our beloved and honored president, Robert Treat Paine. He had been in broken health for a year, and his departure was not unexpected, but his death, when it came, brought a deep and painful sense of loss to all of us who had known him intimately and been closely associated with him in work.

Philanthropist, in the original and fundamental sense of the word, describes Mr. Paine's character and work as well as any one word can be made to sum up a life so varied and full. He loved mankind and consecrated himself and his wealth warmly and generously to helping his fellowmen, especially the working classes and those who, from misfortune, needed temporary assistance. His philanthropy was large-hearted, whole-hearted, generous, timely; but it was also intelligent and discriminating. He tried always to help people so as not to pauperize them, but to stimulate and encourage them to help themselves.

In his line of philanthropic service he had few, if any, equals in New England, or indeed in the whole land.

The story of the leading part which he took in the rebuilding of Trinity Church after the great Boston fire, and of his generous and loyal support of all its Christian work; of his founding and development of the Wells Memorial Institute for Workingmen; of the People's Institute in Roxbury and of the Workingmen's Loan Association; of the prominent part which he took in the creation of the Associated Charities of Boston, of which he was president for over thirty years; of the creation, with the coöperation of Mrs. Paine, of the Robert Treat Paine Benevolent Association, which they endowed with \$200,000; of his gifts to Harvard University for fellowships and scholarships; and his various charitable services to the poor in times of special emergencies—is a conspicuous part of the best humane history of Boston for the past forty years.

It was because of Mr. Paine's philanthropic character and work and of his high standing as a citizen that he was chosen president of the American Peace Society in 1891. He was elected to this position while he was abroad in Europe. The choice came as an entire surprise to him, and he accepted it with reluctance because his hands were full of other interests and because of his inexperience in peace work.

But once in the service, his interest grew from the start, and in recent years the subject was very much on his mind and heart. He was one of the first members of the Mohonk Arbitration Conference when it was started in 1895, and took prominent part in nearly all of the meetings held by Mr. Smiley in that famous place, until the past year, when his health did not permit him to be present. In 1893 he presided over one of the sessions of the fifth International Peace Congress at Chicago during the Columbian Exposition, and he was instrumental in having presented to that Congress a plan for a permanent international tribunal prepared by three eminent jurists of New York City. He visited the State Department and the President at Washington several times, either alone or with others, in the interests of arbitration, and it was largely due to his suggestions and representations that the negotiations for an Anglo-American arbitration treaty were first opened by Secretary Gresham. Mr. Paine was president of the thirteenth International Peace Congress at Boston in 1904. He spent much of the summer of 1907 at The Hague in

touch with the delegates to the second Hague Conference, especially those from the United States, urging the most advanced measures possible for the furtherance of permanent world peace. He was much perplexed and distressed over the colossal militarism of the day, and could not understand how nations laying any claim to civilization and Christianity could keep up such a monstrous system. The constant addition of bigger and bigger battleships to the navies of the powers calling themselves Christian he considered not only absurd, but "positively wicked."

Mr. Paine signed the circular letter which initiated the preparations for the great National Peace Congress held at New York City in 1907. He also opened and presided at the first session of the second National Peace Congress held at Chicago in May 1909. This was his last public service to the peace cause, though he was present at the annual meeting of the American Peace Society a few days later and at the Mohonk Arbitration Conference which followed.

As president of the American Peace Society Mr. Paine was always prompt, faithful and cheerful in the fulfillment of his official duties. He was constantly looking out for ways in which the Society's work might be extended and made more influential. For some years past he had made an annual contribution of \$1,000 to the Society's funds. But better than this was his generous and joyful interest in the work and his confidence in and loyalty to his fellow workers. He was one of the most inspiring and encouraging men to work with in any important cause that it has ever been our privilege to be associated with.

He had the most unbounded faith in the final triumph of the peace movement, which he considered without exception the greatest moral cause before the world, and his faith and example will continue to be an inspiration to all of us who have been associated with him to do all in our power to hasten the coming of the time when the sword shall be forever sheathed and the nations shall learn war no more.

The Stockholm Peace Congress.

Editorial Correspondence.

The eighteenth International Peace Congress, postponed from last year on account of the great strike at the Swedish capital, was held from August 1 to 5 at Stockholm, and was a most signal success.

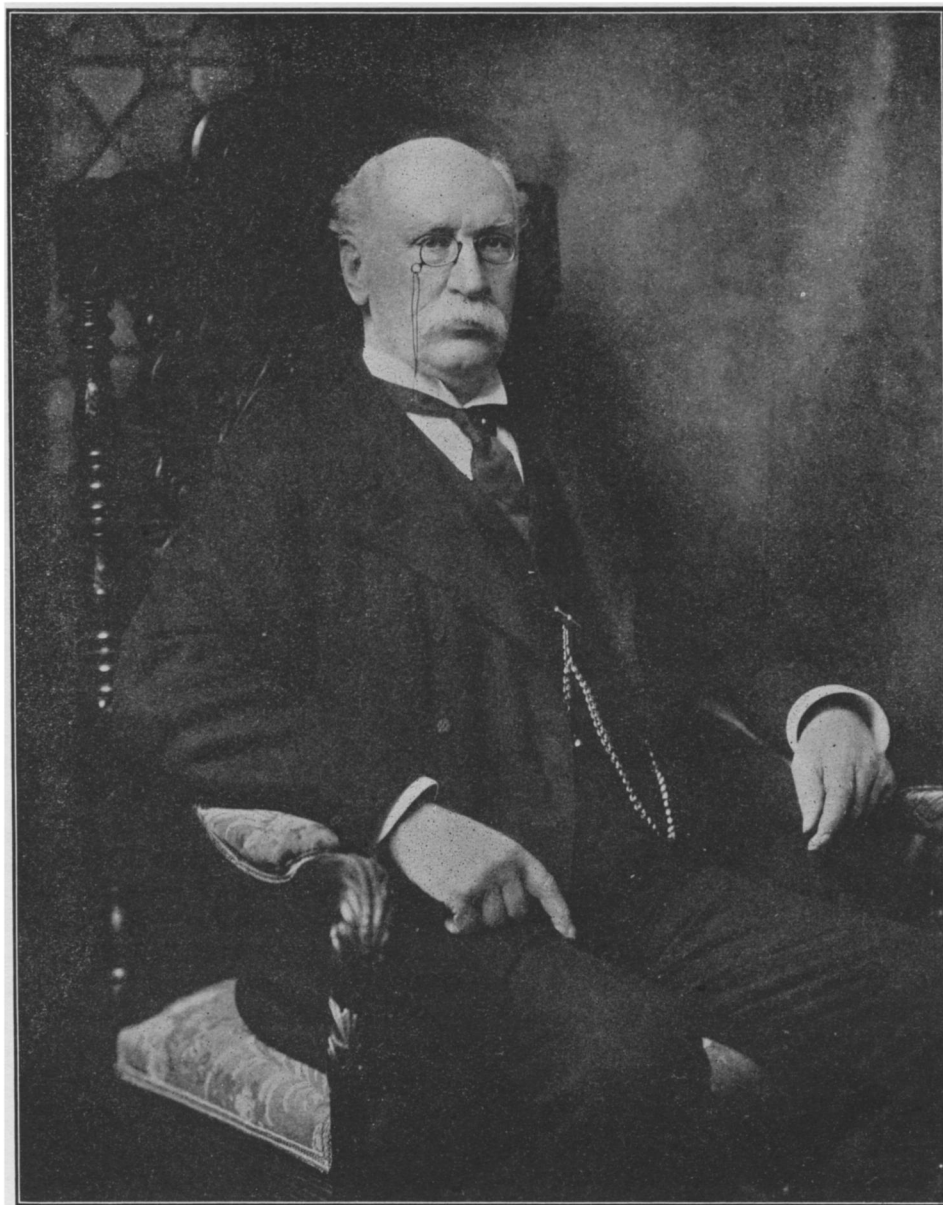
No peace congress has, I think, ever been better planned in advance than this. The Committee on Organization — Baron Carl Carlson Bonde, M. P., chairman; Dr. J. Bergman, secretary; Mrs. Emilia Broomé, treasurer; Ernst Beckman, M. P.; Valdemar Langlet, editor; Edward Wawrinsky, M. P., and others — and Mrs. Fanny Petterson, chairman of the Entertainment

Committee, had so carefully worked out the arrangements and superintended the execution of them with so much intelligence, untiring energy, patience, tact and courtesy that everything took place in its time. The whole series of meetings, receptions, excursions, etc., was carried out in the most perfect order and to the great satisfaction and even admiration of everybody present. It was a fine lesson in congress organization.

More than six hundred delegates and other members were enrolled. Nearly all the continental European countries sent unusually large and strong delegations — Germany, France, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland and the rest. The English contingent was smaller than usual, as was that from the United States. A number of those who had been appointed delegates from our American societies, and were fully expected, failed to appear. A striking feature of the meeting was the presence for the first time in a peace congress of official Russian delegates. These came from the recently organized peace societies in St. Petersburg and Moscow, and were among the strongest and certainly the most striking figures of the Congress. They spoke French with great facility and force. Among them were Prince Dolgoroukoff of Moscow, A. N. Briantschaninoff of St. Petersburg, and I. Ephremoff, leader of the Progressive Party in the Duma, who in one of the discussions declared himself to be totally opposed to the Russian government's Finnish policy. Among the dozen or more delegates from Finland was Dr. L. Mechelin, former vice-president of the Finnish Senate, a fine, strong man, who took prominent part in the discussions. Mohamed Farid Bey from Cairo, a member of the Egyptian Nationalist Party, was an interesting figure. There were three young Chinese members of the Congress, two of them students from London, who were deeply interested in the proceedings, and one delegate from Sidney, Australia. The Scandinavian countries were, of course, most largely represented. Sweden alone furnished about two hundred members, coming from all parts of the country. The absence of Frederic Passy, the Baroness von Suttner and E. T. Moneta was much regretted. They have been leading figures in practically all of the congresses for the last twenty years, but from age and impaired health they seem not likely ever again to be present. Telegrams of greeting and affection were sent to them. We had, however, the presence and help of a large number of leading workers in their several countries; from England, J. G. Alexander, Dr. W. Evans Darby, George H. Perris, Thomas Snape and J. Fred Green; from Germany, Dr. Richter, Dr. Quidde, A. H. Fried and Dr. Umfrid; from France, Arnaud, Allegret, Dr. Dumas, Dr. Richet, Moch and Prudhommeaux; from Switzerland, Dr. Gobat, secretary of the Peace Bureau; from Holland,

1835

1910



ROBERT TREAT PAINE
PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY
1891 - 1910